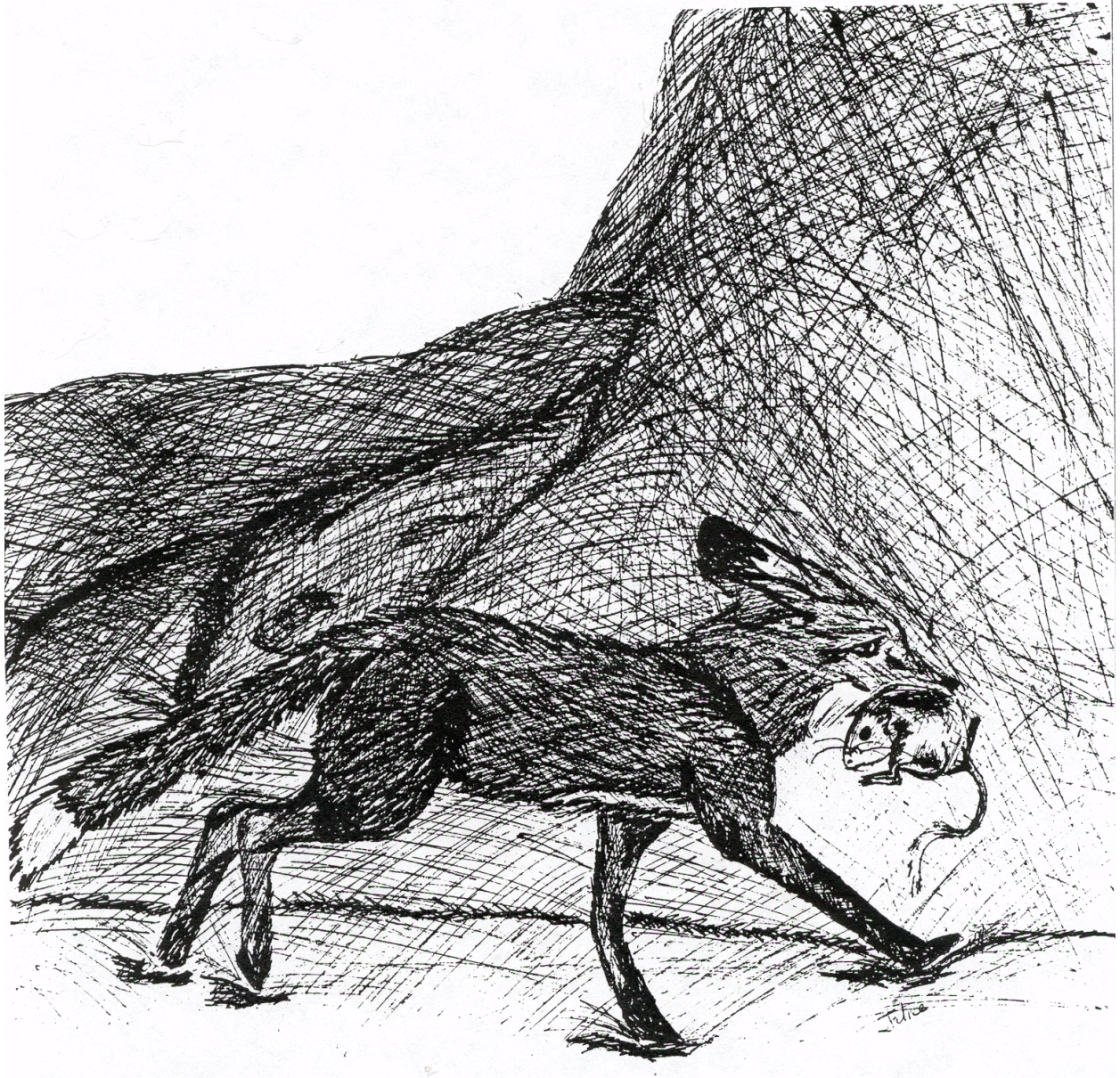


# Southeastern Utah's Mammals



## Southeastern Utah's Mammals (Mammalian Species)

When pioneers arrived in Utah (1847) 110 species of mammals inhabited the southeastern region. Today (1990) there are 105 species. The Virginia opossum is an exotic and was probably not present in the state during early pioneer days. Impacts from man have not resulted in any specific species becoming extinct, but six species have been extirpated from the region. Two of these, the gray wolf (*Canis Lupus*) and grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos*) are considered endangered in some areas where they still survive. Another species, the black-footed ferret (*Mustela nigripes*), is also endangered but may still inhabit environs within southeastern Utah.

The gray wolf and grizzly bear were targets for indiscriminate extermination efforts by early trappers and settlers. This killing had devastating effects on population levels and led to their extirpation from Utah. More recently, wildlife pest control efforts by agricultural interests was directed at prairie dogs. The demise of the black-footed ferret has been attributed to widespread extermination of prairie dog colonies, their primary food source.

Species not affected by extermination efforts often feel the pressures of man development in other respects. Many species utilize large home ranges. If they are disturbed to the extent that they vacate their home range, they may find surrounding locales already filled to capacity. In addition, migration routes may be disturbed by both human activities and artificial barriers. Species with small range sizes are also impacted from development as they do not have the capability to move great distances to new areas away from the source of stress.

Mammals at breeding or wintering areas are the most sensitive to disturbance. The animals are already under stress during these periods. Energy during the breeding season is directed towards mating activities and raising the young. During the wintering period, energies are directed towards locating food and water supplies as well as staying warm. Project plans should be developed around these crucial time periods.

Most mammals (72 to 84%) regardless of geographic area utilize the submontane riparian ecosystems. No doubt water and enhanced vegetation conditions in riparian zones account for this wildlife use. Also, a large percentage of mammals (66 to 88%) inhabit the mountain brush and pinyon/juniper ecosystems. These more xeric (dry) ecosystems provide sufficient berry and nut crops along with attractive cover to sustain wildlife populations (Table 5).

The sub montane zone is intensively used by wildlife due in part to movement into or across this elevation by animals utilizing both desert and montane ecological associations. The submontane zone offers relatively stable and acceptable climatic conditions for many species.

It should be noted that the aspen ecosystem is considered to be of critical value to economically important large game species (moose, elk and deer). They "shade up" in the aspen type to reduce the potential of serious problems associated with heat prostration. Aspen also supports an excellent vegetation suitable for parturition and feeding areas.

Life requisite information in this section describes breeding seasons, gestation periods, and the time required for the young to disperse from the protection of parental care. Habitat requirements are also explored and should be used by land-use planners to effectively design projects with the least impact to the wildlife inhabitants.

**Table 5.** Numbers (#) of mammalian species that now (1990) inhabit geographic areas and the proportion (%) of that total which each ecosystem by ecological association within southeastern Utah.

Geographic Areas (Elevation in feet)/#	Proportion (%) of species that inhabit each ecosystem by (1) Cold Desert (3,700 -5,800 ft.); (2) Submontane (5,500-8,500 ft.); and (3) Submontane (6,500-12,721 ft.) ecological associations.																																																					
	UPLANDS																								WETLANDS																													
	Urban			Agricultural			Alpine			Spruce/Fir			Aspen			Ponderosa			Sagebrush/Grass			Mountain Brush			Pinyon/Juniper			Saltbrush/Grass			Blackbrush			Grassland			Barren			Marsh			Mesic Meadow			Riparian			Stream			Lake		
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3													
Wasatch Plateau (5,500-10,741)/80		25	19		30					23			50		46			51		66	46		66			68					51	36		65	24		29	25		28	24		76	58		4	6		4	5				
Tavaputs Plateau (5,500-10,118)/79					29							50		47			53		71	47		72			76						48	39		43	27		29	25		27	23		80	58		4	6		4	5				
Cedar Mountain (5,500-7,664)/58																			86			79			88						69			45		29		28		84		0			0									
Henry Mountains (5,500-11,506)/66					29					23			58		53			59		78	52		77			83				48		59	44		45	32		30	26		29	27		83	61		5	5		5	3			
Abajo/Elk Ridge (5,500-11,362)/77		27			29					21			52		47			55		70	44		71			74				40		52	36		43	29		25	22		23	22		77	53		4	4		4	3			
LaSal Mountains (5,500-12,72)/78		27			29					21			52		47			55		70	44		71			74				40		52	36		43	29		25	22		23	22		77	53		4	4		4	3			
Dolores Triangle (3,937-7,428)/72					21	25														53	69		71			74		44			44	42		38	51		33	43		21	28		19	24		56	76		6	6		6	6	
San Rafael Desert (4,120-7,920)/72	26	28			35	2														64	75		68			71		54			47	47		53	61		29	38		25	28		24	31		61	76		6	6		6	6	
Burr Desert (4,500-6,522)/62	29				32															65	73		71			74		55			53	52		52	56		31	40		24	27		26	27		63	76		5	5		5	5	
Cisco Desert (3,937-5,300)/47	38				47															80							77					70			40		26		28		72			2			4							
Canyonlands (3,700-10,388)/85	24	24			27	32						46		41			47		55	71	41		67			68		47			44	39		45	53	33	27	40	24	20	25	22	19	22	20	53	72	51	5	5	5	5	5	4

Mammalian Species  (*) high-interest because of economic, aesthetic, educational, scientific, or ecological value.	Relative Abundance <sup>1</sup>	indigenous/exotic	Relative Biological value of Ecosystems: (C) critical; (H) high priority; (S) substantial; (L) limited																		
		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands					
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake	
Family: Didelphidae Virginia opossum <i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	k k k k k k k l k l k	<b>Exotic</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands																	C		
North of Mexico, this nocturnal nongame animal is the only marsupial on the continent. They prefer riparian wetlands and are omnivorous. Frequent feeding on carrion causes many opossums to be killed on highways. Usually, opossums will raise two litters a year. Up to 12 young will be born to each litter. At 12-13 days of development, the young climb into the pouch where they will remain for two months. Southeastern Utah supports a population proximal to Green River town site at cold desert and submontane elevations.																					

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																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake	
Family: Soricidae *desert shrew <i>Notiosorex crawfordi</i>	k k k r r r r k r k r	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands							C	C	S	C	C	S					H		
			These nongame mammals are found at cold desert and submontane elevations. Their population trend is unknown. Nests are made of fine vegetation or hair and are built beneath plants or debris. Three to five young are born in August. They will leave the nest after 40 days. Desert shrews can exist exclusively on water obtained from their food; primarily the soft inner parts of large insects. The primary predators on these shrews are owls.																		
masked shrew <i>Sorex cinereus</i>	c c k c k k k c c k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			S	L	S	L	S	S	S	S	S	S				H	C		
			Masked shrews prefer montane riparian wetlands, but are found at all elevations. The population trend of these nongame animals is unknown. Up to four litters of 3-12 young are raised each year. Breeding occurs from April through October, however, it peaks in June and July. Nests are constructed of grass and dry leaves and are hidden under stumps, logs, or brush piles. Masked shrews feed on insects and small animals.																		

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area



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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
Merriam's shrew <i>Sorex merriami</i>	u u u u u u u u k k u	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			H	S	H	H	C	S	L			H				C		
			Merriam's shrews are found at submontane and montane elevations. The population trend of these nongame animals is unknown. Little is known of the habits of this species, but they are probably similar to other shrews. Their diet includes insects and small animals. Observations have shown these shrews to have litters of about six young. Large, odorous glands on the male (prominent from April to June) are used to attract females and possibly repel predators.																	
montane shrew <i>Sorex monticolus</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			S	H	H	H	S	S	H	L	L	H		C	C	C		
			These nongame mammals inhabit all elevations. Their population trend is unknown. Nests are located in stumps, logs, or beneath debris. Three to twelve young are usually born in July, although high altitude populations in Montana have reproduced in March and April. This species feeds on insects, insect larvae, spiders, snails, and other invertebrates.																	

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Mammalian Species  (*) high-interest because of economic, aesthetic, educational, scientific, or ecological value.	Relative Abundance <sup>1</sup>	indigenous/exotic	Relative Biological value of Ecosystems: (C) critical; (H) high priority; (S) substantial; (L) limited																	
		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
*dwarf shrew <i>Sorex nanus</i>	k r r r r r r r r k r	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			C	C	C	C	C	S	S				C	C	H	C		
			Dwarf shrews prefer open areas of submontane and montane elevations. They are often found in clearcuts or alpine rockslide areas. The population trend of this nongame species is unknown. Breeding begins early in the year, and shrews may have more than one litter; the first between late July and early August, and the second a month later. Small, round nests are constructed of shredded vegetation and concealed under leaves, rocks, logs, or in burrows. These voracious feeders consume soft-bodied insects and spiders.																	
northern water shrew <i>Sorex palustris</i>	c c k c c c c k c k c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands													C	C	C			
			Northern water shrews are associated with submontane and montane wetland ecosystems. Their population trend is unknown. Nests built of vegetation, sticks, leaves, and hair are hidden in debris or beaver dens. Up to three litters of 4 to 8 young are born from February to June. These shrews are excellent swimmers and can actually run short distances on the water surface or the stream bottom. They feed primarily upon small aquatic organisms and are preyed upon by weasels, snakes, birds, and fish. They have also been found caught in fish traps.																	

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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
vagrant shrew <i>Sorex vagrans</i>	c c k k c c c c k k c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			H									H		H	C	C		
			Vagrant shrews inhabit submontane and montane elevations. The population trend of these nongame animals is unknown. Breeding occurs from January through May and again in October or November. Most will only raise one litter of 2-9 young a year. The gestation period is about 20 days. Nests are constructed of grass and dry leaves hidden in stumps or logs. Vagrant shrews are omnivorous.																	
Family: Vespertilionidae pallid bat <i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H						H	H	H	H	H		C			H		
			These nongame animals are most commonly found in a variety of desert and submontane habitat types where suitable roosts exist. Diurnal roosts are usually in rock crevices and buildings, but occasionally mines, caves, and hollow trees are utilized. Nursery colonies begin forming in April, and the young are born in late Mayor June. Young bats can fly in 33 to 36 days. The pallid bat feeds on both terrestrial and flying insects. Their population trend is decreasing.																	

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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
*Allen's big-eared bat <i>Idionycteris phyllotis</i>	k k k k r r r k k k r	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands				S	S	S		S	S				C			H		
			These nongame bats inhabit submontane and montane elevations. They are probably one of the rarest bats in North America, and southeastern Utah's population is limited to certain areas of the region. Their population trend is unknown. Caves and mines of the forest serve as roost and nursery sites. A single young is probably born in July. These opportunistic feeders consume insects.																	
silver-haired bat <i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	c c k c c c k k k k c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	L			H	H	H							C	C	C	C	C	C
			These nongame bats inhabit montane forested ecosystems nearby water. Their population trend is unknown. Tree cavities usually serve as diurnal roosts, however, during migration roost sites may vary. Mating occurs in August and September. Generally, two young are born in June or July. They can fly after 3-4 weeks. Colonies hibernate in various places during the winter. Silver-haired bats forage in the evening for insects. Deforestation can reduce roosting habitat, thereby adversely affecting populations.																	

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																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
California myotis <i>Myotis californicus</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H			S	S	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	C			H		
California myotis are found at all elevations. The population trend of these nongame bats is unknown. They roost in crevices and caves. Breeding occurs from September-October. Small nursery colonies are formed and single young are born between mid May and mid June. They can fly at 2 months of age. This nongame species is entirely insectivorous.																				
long-eared myotis <i>Myotis evotis</i>	c c k c c c c k k k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H			C	C	C			C				C			C		
These nongame animals inhabit submontane and montane zones. They roost in buildings, mine tunnels, caves, and trees. Their population trend is unknown. Single young are born in June or July within small nesting colonies. They are insectivorous and forage for beetles among trees and over ponds.																				

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																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
small-footed myotis <i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	u u u u u u u u u u	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H			C	C	C	S	S	C	S	S	S	C			C		
			These nongame bats are usually found in or near forested ecosystems at all elevations. The preferred ecosystem is ponderosa pine. Night roosts include caves, rock crevices, and mine tunnels. Single young are born from May-July after a 60 day gestation period. They can fly after 3 weeks. In winter, these bats hibernate alone or in small groups. This species is nocturnal and insectivorous. Their population trend is unknown.																	
little brown bat <i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H			S	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	C			C		
			These nongame insectivorous bats are found at all elevations. Their population trend is unknown. Colonies roost in caves, mine tunnels, hollow trees, or buildings. These nocturnal animals often hibernate in the winter. Young are born from May to June in hot, dark, stagnant retreats called nursery colonies. They can fly and feed on their own after 3 weeks.																	

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																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
fringed myotis <i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	u u u u u u u u u u	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H						S	H	H	S	S	S	C			H		
			Fringed myotis reside in caves, mines, rock crevices, and buildings at desert and submontane elevations. The population trend of these nongame bats is unknown. Young are born in June and July and are capable of flight in less than 3 weeks. The bats migrate south in September and will return to Utah in May. They forage at night for insects. Pesticides have adverse effects on fringed myotis populations.																	
long-legged myotis <i>Myotis volans</i>	c c c c c c c o o o c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H			S	S	S	H	S	S	H	H		C			H		
			These nongame bats inhabit all elevations. The population trend of these highly adaptable animals is unknown. During the day they roost in buildings, rock crevices, trees, and mines. Female nursery colonies are formed in the spring. There is a 50-60 day gestation period and a single young is born between June and August. These bats forage nocturnally over water and in forest openings.																	

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																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
*kit fox <i>Vulpes macrotis</i>	k k k k k k k u u u u	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	Although the population trend of this furbearer is unknown, poison campaigns have decimated many populations. Kits prefer open, level, sandy ground at desert elevations. Four to 7 young are born underground from February to April after a 49-56 day gestation period. Their home range exists up to 2 miles from the den. The pups leave the den after one month and will begin hunting with the adults after three or four months. Most will leave the den in October.																	
*red fox <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	u u u u u u u u u u	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	L	H		L	S	S	H	H	H	S	S	S		H	H	H		
			These furbearers occur at all elevations and utilize home ranges of 1-20 square miles. Their population trend is unknown. Abandoned burrows are the preferred nesting sites, but rock crevices, hollow logs, culverts, and openings under buildings are also utilized. Mating occurs from January to early March, gestation requires 51-53 days, and 4 to 8 kits are born between March and May. At one month of age, kits play above ground and eat food brought by the parents. They are independent at 4 months of age.																	

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area

Mammalian Species  (*) high-interest because of economic, aesthetic, educational, scientific, or ecological value.	Relative Abundance <sup>1</sup>	indigenous/exotic	Relative Biological value of Ecosystems: (C) critical; (H) high priority; (S) substantial; (L) limited																	
		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
Family: Ursidae *black bear <i>Ursus americanus</i>	c c o u c c u o k o u	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	The population trend is increasing for these submontane and montane game animals. Mating occurs from June-July. Females can give birth every other year between January and February to as many as 5 cubs while in their dens. Cubs stay with the female through their second winter. Grasses and forbs are eaten from spring to early summer, when the diet switches to insects and larvae. Carrion is taken when available. Berries and mast are preferred in the fall. These bears prefer forested habitats that contain open meadows.																	
*grizzly bear <i>Ursus arctos</i>	*k *k k *k *k k k k k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			C	C	C	C	H	S	L			S		C	C	C		
			Grizzly bears were once abundant in remote mountainous regions of southeastern Utah(*). This endangered species has now been extirpated from all wildlands of Utah. The future of these magnificent bears is uncertain.																	

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area



Mammalian Species  (*) high-interest because of economic, aesthetic, educational, scientific, or ecological value.	Relative Abundance <sup>1</sup>	indigenous/exotic	Relative Biological value of Ecosystems: (C) critical; (H) high priority; (S) substantial; (L) limited																	
		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
Family: Procyonidae *ringtail <i>Bassariscus astutus</i>	c c c c c c c c c c k c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	Ringtails inhabit rocky areas of desert and submontane ecosystems. The population trend is stable for these furbearers. Dens are in caves, crevices, hollow trees, rock piles, or unused buildings. One litter per year is born in May or June. The young begin to walk at 35-42 days of age and leave their mother in August or September. Ringtails are carnivorous, nocturnal, and partially colonial. Water must be available within one-half mile of the den site.																	
*raccoon <i>Procyon lotor</i>	c c k k c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	H	C						H						H	S	C	C	C
			These omnivorous furbearers occur from desert through submontane elevations. Their population trend is unknown. The male raccoon may travel miles in search of a mate from January to March. Dens are located in hollow trees, logs, rock crevices, or burrows. Clearcutting can seriously reduce the availability of den sites. One to 7 young are born from April to May after a 63 day gestation period. Weaning occurs after 2-4 months and the young will be independent by winter. Adults occupy home ranges of 0.6 to 4 square miles.																	

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area

Mammalian Species  (*) high-interest because of economic, aesthetic, educational, scientific, or ecological value.	Relative Abundance <sup>1</sup>	indigenous/exotic	Relative Biological value of Ecosystems: (C) critical; (H) high priority; (S) substantial; (L) limited																	
		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
Family: Mustelidae *wolverine <i>Gulo gulo</i>	*k *k k *k *k k k k k *k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	The home range of these furbearers has been reported to be anywhere from 80 to1000 square miles. Wolverines prefer large tracts of montane wilderness. Mating occurs from April-October. There is an actual gestation period of 30-40 days and 1-6 young are born. Up to two litters are raised each year. The young have been observed to remain with the mother for 6 months to 2 years. Dens are preferably located under snow-covered tree roots. They have been extirpated from historic areas(*)																	
*marten <i>Martes americana</i>	*k *k k *k *k k k k k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands				C	L	C										C		
1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area																				



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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands					
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake	
*long-tailed weasel <i>Mustela frenata</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands		S		S	S	S		S	S								C		
			These furbearers are valuable rodent predators that occur at all elevations. Mating occurs in the summer and 4-9 young are born by the following May. They are weaned after 5-6 weeks and disperse at 2 months of age. Available drinking water is a limiting factor for this species. An area of 4-5 square miles of suitable habitat is required per animal. Long- tailed weasels are preyed upon by hawks, owls, foxes, snakes, and cats.																		
*black-footed ferret <i>Mustela nigripes</i>	k k k k k k k e k e e	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands		C					C			C		C							
			Black-footed ferrets exist at desert or sub montane elevations and only where prairie dog colonies are sufficient for prey and den sites. Elimination of these colonies by ranchers, along with predation, disease, and inbreeding have led to the ferret's demise. The breeding season of this animal is generally from March-April. A gestation period of 45 days leads to the birth of 1-5 young. They will remain in the borrow for 45 days. By July they are almost adult size.																		

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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
*bighorn sheep <i>Ovis canadensis</i>	k *l o *l *o *k l c u k *c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands			H				C	H	H	C	C	H	C	L	H	C		
			Bighorns inhabit precipitous areas of all elevations. Winter range is occupied from 12-1 to 4-15. Breeding occurs from November-January. Desert bighorn parturition occurs from 4-1 to 5-31 and rocky mountain bighorns give birth from 5-1 to 6-15. Weaning in these game animals occurs after 6 months. Bighorns are sensitive to disturbance. Water is critical for herd survival. Desert bighorn ( <i>O.c. nelsoni</i> ) and mountain bighorn ( <i>O.c. canadensis</i> ) inhabit southeastern Utah. Potential reintroduction sites exist(*)																	
Family: Sciuridae white-tailed antelope squirrel <i>Ammospermophilus leucurus</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands							H		H	H	H	H				H		
			Whitetailed antelope squirrels are found at desert and submontane elevations, preferring rocky or gravelly soil. Their population trend is stable. They burrow beneath shrubs, trees, or rocks. Five to 14 young are born in early spring and occasionally a second litter occurs. These solitary mammals are active all year, although some may hibernate. They forage on the ground and sometimes in cacti for seeds and fruit. The home range size of these nongame animals is 14-20 acres.																	

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area







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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
*Abert's squirrel <i>Sciurus aberti</i>	k k k k r r k k k k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands						C												
			This nongame species is limited to mature, closed canopy ponderosa pine forests. Forest practices that reduce the canopy to less than 60% are detrimental. Mating occurs from March-April. Bulky nests are built in the pines and require a minimum 50 ft. undisturbed radius. Three to four young are born between April and May after a 40-46 day gestation period. The young are independent by June. Pine cambiums and seeds along with pinyon nuts are preferred by Abert's squirrels. The population trend for this montane species is unknown.																	
Uintah ground squirrel <i>Spermophilus armatus</i>	c c k k k k k k k k k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands							C									H		
			Uintah ground squirrels prefer open, well-drained, grassy meadows at submontane and montane elevations. The population trend is stable for these nongame mammals. A litter of 4 to 6 young is born in April or May, after a 26 day gestation period. The young emerge from their burrows in 24 days. Hibernation lasts from September-April and estivation occupies the summer months. These colonial squirrels feed mainly on green vegetation.																	

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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands					
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake	
Family: Geomyidae Botta's pocket gopher <i>Thomomys battae</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	Botta's pocket gophers occur at all elevations. The population trend of these nongame, herbivorous animals is unknown. They are solitary and spend most of their time underground, except during the mating season. The peak breeding season is from October- June. Five to seven young are born from November- April. They are weaned at 35-40 days of age and disperse by 2 months of age. Home range sizes have been recorded at 1300-2200 square feet.																		
northern pocket gopher <i>Thomomys talpoides</i>	c c c c c c c c c c k c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands		H	H	H	S	H	H	S	H			H				H			
Northern pocket gophers prefer deep, sandy soils at submontane and montane elevations. They often inhabit alfalfa fields that are left unplowed. The population trend of these nongame animals is unknown. They seldom appear above ground and venture no more than 2-1/2 ft. from the burrow entrance when they do. One or two litters per year of 4 to 7 young are born from February-June after an 18-20 day gestation period. They are weaned after 40 days and disperse after another 2 weeks. Pocket gophers usually forage underground for roots, tubers, and stems.																					

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area

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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
Family: Heteromyidae Ord's kangaroo rat <i>Dipodomys ordii</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	These nongame animals prefer sandy soils at desert and submontane elevations. Their population trend is unknown. This species is active all year but seldom appear above ground in cold weather. Days are spent in deep burrows in the sand, which they plug to maintain temperature and humidity. January-March and August-October are the breeding seasons. After a 29-30 day gestation period, 2-5 young are born. They are independent after 8 weeks. They eat insects and seeds and will drink water when available.																	
plains pocket mouse <i>Perognathus flavescens</i>	c c c c c c c c c c c c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands	Plains pocket mice inhabit sandy soils at desert and submontane elevations. The population trend of these nongame mice is unknown. Burrows are constructed under cacti or low shrubs. The breeding season occurs from April-August with the birth of 2-5 young. Usually two litters are born a year. The mice subsist primarily on seeds.																	

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area































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		Distribution by Geographic Area	Urban	Agricultural	Alpine	Spruce/Fir	Aspen	Ponderosa	Sagebrush/grass	Mountain Brush	Pinyon/juniper	Saltbrush/grass	Blackbrush	Grassland	Barren	wetlands				
																Marsh	Mesic Meadow	Riparian	Stream	Lake
Family: Dipodidae western jumping mouse <i>Zapus princeps</i>	c k k k k k k l k k k	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands							S	S		S		H			C	C		
			These nocturnal, herbivorous, nongame mice are found at desert and submontane elevations. They live in burrows within 150 feet of water. Breeding occurs soon after emergence from hibernation. Nests are depressions in grass or moss. A single litter of 4-8 young is born in June or July after an 18 day gestation period. The young nurse for one month and are fully independent after 2-3 months. Male home range sizes have been reported as 691 x 100 ft. and females occupy 510 x 100 ft. home ranges.																	
Family: Erethizontidae porcupine <i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	c c c c c c c c c k c	<b>Indigenous</b> Wasatch Plateau Tavaputs Plateau Cedar Mountain Henry Mountains Abajo/Elk Ridge LaSal Mountains Dolores Triangle San Rafael Desert Burr Desert Cisco Desert Canyonlands				H	H	H	H	H	H							H		
			These nongame animals occur at all elevations. Their population trend is stable. Hollow trees or natural caves serve as den sites. Breeding occurs in October and November. Gestation lasts 7 months and a single young is born in Mayor June. The young nurses for 2-3 weeks and will disperse after 3-4 months. In the spring adults feed on twigs and herbaceous vegetation. In the winter they feed on cambium. Although active year round, they may den up in holes in the bitter cold. Their average yearly home range size is reported as 173 acres.																	

1. Relative Abundance: (c) common; (u) uncommon; (l) limited; (r) rare; (e) endangered; (t) threatened; (o) occasional; (a) accidental; (k) unknown to inhabit area







